



MDCR/MCRC E-news for February 26, 2015

[Kalamazoo College students start #UnsafeAtK social media campaign, say they feel threatened](#)

From MLive, 2/25

Kalamazoo – Kalamazoo College administration will meet with some students today who say they have felt threatened in recent weeks due to their race.

[Detroit supports effort challenging anti-Arab bias](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/25

Detroit — Organizers of a national campaign to challenge discrimination against U.S. Arabs and Muslims say Detroit is the first city to officially stand behind their effort.

[Grand Ledge teen named Miss Wheelchair Michigan](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/25

Grand Ledge sophomore Caitlyn Wells loves to bowl and dance. She's a member of her high school's bowling team, rolling strikes from her wheelchair. And, on Saturday, the 16-year-old born with spina bifida, was named Miss Wheelchair Michigan.

[Transgender teen gets support from feds in school suit](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/24

WYANDOTTE — The federal government is supporting a Wyandotte teenager who accuses several schools of discriminating against him because he's transgender.

[Hamad: Violent extremism is a universal challenge](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/24

The world has been witnessing a rapidly growing and fast spreading phenomenon of extremism and radicalization. All peace-loving people across the world regardless of faith, origin, race or color stand unequivocally against extremism that is seen as a global threat. No doubt extremism has become a universal challenge that recognizes no borders. It utilizes violence to prove its existence and to impose its presence. The victims are innocent people who are targeted irrespective of their faith, race, color, national origin or nationality. It is driven by blind hate and it violates all norms of basic human decency.

[When Whites Get a Free Pass](#)

From the New York Times, 2/24

NEW HAVEN — THE recent reunion show for the 40th anniversary of "Saturday Night Live" re-aired a portion of Eddie Murphy's 1984 classic "White Like Me" skit, in which he disguised himself to appear Caucasian and quickly learned that "when white people are alone, they give things to each other for free."

[Judge OKs atheist's 'reason station' in city hall](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/23

If a church can have a prayer station inside city hall, then an atheist can have a reason station there, too.

[NAACP Flint Branch plans its annual Freedom Fund Dinner](#)

From MLive, 2/23

Flint – The Flint Branch of The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is having its 34th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner Saturday, March 14, featuring Gerald Kariem, director of UAW Region 1-D as the keynote speaker.

[On 50th anniversary of Malcolm X assassination, recalling family's tragic link to Kalamazoo](#)

From MLive, 2/23

This month marks the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X, a black activist often viewed as the angry counterpart to Martin Luther King Jr. and who frequently denounced "white devils."

[Religious objection bills reemerge in state Legislature](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/23

LANSING — As the U.S. Supreme Court prepares to decide this spring if same-sex marriage should be legal in Michigan and other states across the country, legislation aimed at protecting businesses and agencies from providing services that conflict with their religious beliefs is making its way through the state Capitol.

[Activist: Much to do for Michigan's disabled](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/22

As Gov. Rick Snyder's health improves following hospitalization for a blood clot resulting from a torn Achilles tendon, the saga has left an indelible imprint on him.

[Hobby Lobby ruling left wiggle room over definition of 'closely held' firm](#)

From Crain's Detroit Business, 2/22

Ever since the U.S. Supreme Court held that some corporations with religious owners don't have to offer insurance for birth control, many employers and attorneys have wondered who qualifies for that exemption and how far it goes.

[Film profiles bishop who healed Detroit after '67 riots](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/22

Just months after riots rocked Detroit in the summer of 1967, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton became the youngest vicar general of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

[Former Spartan battled bullies, autism and doubters](#)

From the Lansing State Journal, 2/22

Anthony Ianni still commands attention on the court, three years after his playing days ended. All eyes follow him as his 6-foot-9 frame and size 18 shoes pace up and down the gymnasium floor, frantically and purposefully.

[Immigrant rights group sees hope in border patrol body camera testing](#)

From MLive, 2/21

Detroit – Immigrant rights group, Northern Borders Coalition, said that the Friday announcement from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection regarding body cameras is a step in the right direction.

[FBI: Man at airport lied about ties to Islamic State](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/20

An Iraqi man from East Lansing is charged with lying to federal officials about plans to train and fight with the Islamic State group in the Middle East.

[Police: Assault at Dearborn Kroger not a hate crime](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/20

Dearborn Police said today that the assault in a Kroger store last week of an Arab-American man is not a hate crime.

[Doctor's letter shows depth of divide over gay rights](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/20

Reading Dr. Vesna Roi's letter, I expected to feel outrage.

[Pediatrician wouldn't care for baby with 2 moms](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/19

Sitting in the pediatrician's office with their 6-day-old daughter, the two moms couldn't wait to meet the doctor they had picked out months before.

Pediatrician Denial Of Baby Care Triggers ELCRA Talk

From Gongwer, 2/19

A Roseville pediatrician's refusal to provide care for the baby of a lesbian couple from Oak Park prompted the area's state representative to urge the state to expand its civil rights protections to the LGBT community.

The story, first reported Wednesday by WJBK-TV, the Fox affiliate in Detroit, and the Detroit Free Press involved the pediatrician having a different member of her practice provide care for the baby after citing a religious objection to providing the care herself. The couple, Jami and Krista Contreras, who were married in Vermont, decided to find another provider that had no problem with their relationship.

"I am disappointed that Jami and Krista Contreras were turned away by the pediatrician they had chosen for their daughter, Bay, last fall because they are a lesbian couple," Rep. John Chirkun (D-Roseville) said in a statement. "Sadly, what this doctor did is legal in Michigan. Their experience is yet another example of why we need to extend our civil rights laws to cover LGBT Michiganders so that this kind of discrimination stops. I am glad that the Contreras' have found a pediatrician for Bay that they are happy with, but they never should have been put in this situation to begin with."

Vicki Levengood of the Department of Civil Rights said it has been contacted about the situation and so could offer no specific comments about it.

However, speaking generally of the idea of a physician refusing to treat a person who already belonged to one of the existing protected classes within the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, Ms. Levengood said it would be a complaint the department would investigate on the basis of denying a person public accommodations.

Governor Rick Snyder has called for the Legislature to discuss expansion of ELCRA, but House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) has said the House already looked at the issue in 2014 and will not take it up this term. Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) also has expressed little interest in acting on the issue.

Of Thursday's development, Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said there has been no discussion in the Senate Republican Caucus on expanding Elliott-Larsen. Reaction from Mr. Cotter was not immediately available.

Emily Dievendorf, head of the LGBT advocacy group Equality Michigan, said the situation shows that discrimination against the LGBT community does exist in the state, just as activists have long said.

"This situation is a perfect example of things we've been talking about and Republican leadership claims does not happen," she said. "Now everybody sees the faces. Hard to ignore the face of a 4-month-old baby."

Ms. Dievendorf said the chances are slim of the Contrerases finding justice under current law.

Activists continue prepare for the possibility of a ballot drive in 2016, she said.

"The planning for the possibility of a ballot measure has been going on for years," she said. "We always would rather not put human rights on the ballot, but if we decide that is what is necessary, then the foundation is going to be built right now. We absolutely intend to be ready and winning by 2016."

And the Contrerases story is the kind of story that will mean voter passage of ELCRA expansion, Ms. Dievendorf said.

"After this story and the country seeing this, we know that not only Michigan citizens are on our side, but they're enraged with the lack of logic behind discrimination, behind this particular kind of discrimination," she said.

Appointments by the Governor - **ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DEAF, DEAFBLIND AND HARD OF HEARING:** Elizabeth Bystrycki of Otsego succeeds Jamie Maes-Eischen to represent deaf or hard of hearing persons; Jill Gaus of Jackson succeeds Odessa Carter to represent deaf, deafblind or hard of hearing persons; Miriam Horwitz of Huntington Woods succeeds Laura Scott to represent individuals knowledgeable in the field of deafness; and Jeannette Johnson of Grand Rapids succeeds Brenda Neubeck to represent deaf or hard of hearing persons, all for terms expiring January 18, 2018. Ms. Gaus is also appointed as chair. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

[Kroger shopper: I was attacked for speaking Arabic](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/19

An Arab-American man told police he was assaulted last week at a Kroger in Dearborn by two white men from Taylor who were angered because he was speaking in Arabic, said Dearborn Mayor John O'Reilly Jr.

[Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to receive \\$1 million in federal funds for affordable housing](#)

From MLive, 2/19

Congressman Dan Kildee, D-Flint, announced more than \$13.8 million in federal grants are being awarded to tribes across Michigan to support affordable housing for Native Americans.

[Oakland County Tuskegee Airman honored](#)

From WDIV, 2/19

Oakland County – He shot down German planes as a fighter pilot with the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, but after the war, when Harry Stewart tried to get a job as a commercial airline pilot, he was turned down because of the color of his skin.

[Supreme Court could legalize employment discrimination](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/19

Imagine you're a warehouse manager. You need a new worker and are choosing between three finalists. All are equally qualified, and all say they can meet the job requirements. But two of them, it turns out, are pregnant.

[Religious exemption adoption bills return in Michigan, renew debate over LGBT access](#)

From MLive, 2/18

Lansing – The ongoing debate between religious freedom and gay rights continues to play out in the Michigan Legislature.

[Federal judge Richard Enslen's ruling on MHSAA gender-equity lawsuit has had 'huge impact](#)

From MLive, 2/18

Kalamazoo – Kalamazoo native Richard Enslen died Tuesday at the age of 83, but his impact on high school sports across Michigan will be felt for years to come.

Snyder Creates New Middle-Eastern American Commission

From Gongwer, 2/18

The state could yet have a commission representing residents of Arab and Chaldean descent, with Governor Rick Snyder's creation Wednesday of the Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission. Mr. Snyder also added the director of his Office of New Americans to that and the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission and the Hispanic/Latino Commission.

The newest commission, housed in the Department of Civil Rights, succeeds the Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs, which Mr. Snyder had created in June 2013 but then never filled.

"The Middle-Eastern American community is growing in our state and this reorganization will help ensure Michiganders from multiple backgrounds have the best opportunities to actively work together and participate in our comeback," Mr. Snyder said in a statement.

He said the former council, by its name, was too limiting. He had also said previously that moving it to a commission from a council would raise its visibility and authority.

He did not, though, commit in the announcement to a deadline for appointing members as he had with the council.

The new commission is created under executive order 2015-6. The Office of New Americans is added as an ex-officio member to the existing commissions through EO 2015-7.

[Former Michigan man's alleged Twitter threats to kill kids, Jews intercepted and led to arrest](#)

From MLive, 2/18

GRAND RAPIDS – A spokesman for a nonprofit that advocates for gun control was ready to dismiss a former Michigan man's anti-Semitic tweets.

[WMU senior associate dean resigned over 'culture of silence' surrounding dean's ouster](#)

From MLive, 2/18

Kalamazoo – A senior associate dean at Western Michigan University who resigned after College of Arts and Sciences Dean Alex Enyedi was removed from his position said she's concerned about a "culture of silence" at the university.

[Michigan immigration groups say Texas lawsuit is a temporary setback](#)

From MLive, 2/17

Lansing – Michigan immigrants without documentation shouldn't panic in the wake of a recent lawsuit that temporarily blocked pro-immigration orders from President Barack Obama, immigration groups said today.

[Report: Manchester school board, parents debate transgender student using girls bathroom](#)

From MLive, 2/17

A Manchester Community Schools parent says his daughter was traumatized by an encounter with a transgender student in a girls bathroom.

[Police: Bay County teen who engaged in shootout with police officer dies](#)

From MLive, 2/16

Bay City – A 17-year-old Bangor Township man authorities say shot a Bay City police officer, and was shot multiple times himself in return, has died.

[A Kaffeeklatsch on Race](#)

From the New York Times, 2/16

In our collective imaginations, we tend to conceive of the constantly called-for “national conversation on race” as having the formality of some grand conclave of consciousness — an American Truth and Reconciliation equivalent, a spiritual spectacle in which sins are confessed and blame taken and burdens lifted.

[Regents, University face lawsuit for violating civil rights](#)

From the Michigan Daily, 2/15

One former and one current University employee are suing the University and the University's Board of Regents in federal court over three alleged civil rights violations.

[Fear, distrust at heart of racial divide in Jackson, panel members say](#)

From MLive, 2/13

JACKSON – It comes back to fear based on a lack of trust.

[Soul food luncheon simmers with pro-Detroit vibes](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/13

The politically connected were there. So were the legal elite. And the finger-lickin soul food was aplenty.

[Shooting victim hoped for tolerance — we should, too](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/13

On Wednesday, an angry gunman shattered a cloudless day on the campus of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill by taking the lives of three young Muslim-American students.

[Historically black colleges see rise in enrollment](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/13

Detroit — It happened to Jeremiah Wheeler when he was a high school freshman and visiting a dozen black colleges around the country during a weeklong bus tour.

[Harry Belafonte says greed corrupting American society, tells supporters 'We blinked'](#)

From MLive, 2/13

EAST LANSING – Harry Belafonte thought when he lived to see the end of the 20th century that he would have seen many of the questions of those 100 years settled.

[Mich. chief justice recalls dad's fight against racism](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/12

Beverly Hills — Michigan's highest-ranking African-American official delivered a message of determination and dignity Thursday at Detroit Country Day School, telling a crowd of fathers and sons how his father quietly battled discrimination to become a physician in Detroit.

[Harvard and M.I.T. Are Sued Over Lack of Closed Captions](#)

From the New York Times, 2/12

Advocates for the deaf on Thursday filed federal lawsuits against Harvard and M.I.T., saying both universities violated antidiscrimination laws by failing to provide closed captioning in their online lectures, courses, podcasts and other educational materials.

[Lawsuits by black and white workers claim racial discrimination at Flint hospital](#)

From MLive, 2/12

FLINT – Hurley Medical Center has been hit with two more racial discrimination lawsuits from ex-employees, including an executive who served as a top lawyer for the hospital.

[Michigan Laws Contributing To Statewide Brain Drain](#)

From PrideSource/Between the Lines, 2/12

MICHIGAN - Public opinion on LGBT rights in Michigan has shifted over the years and as grassroots groups do more community outreach, members of the LGBT community are beginning to see a shift in public opinion and employment along with increased regional protections. But is the state progressing fast enough to entice and keep the efforts and employability of qualified LGBT college graduates?

[Muslims, Marriage and Bigotry](#)

From the New York Times, 2/12

In North Carolina, three young Muslims who were active in charity work were murdered, allegedly by a man who identified as atheist and expressed hostility to Islam and other faiths. Police are exploring whether it was a hate crime, and it spurred a #MuslimLivesMatter campaign on Twitter.

[F.B.I. Director to Give Speech Addressing Relations Between Police and Blacks](#)

From the New York Times, 2/11

WASHINGTON — The F.B.I. director, James B. Comey, on Thursday will wade into the national debate about the relationship between police officers and African-Americans that was highlighted by the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man in Ferguson, Mo., in August. It will be the first time one of the bureau's directors has publicly addressed the issue of race at length.

[Judge Damon Keith's legacy looms large](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/11

It's one of the year's most-coveted invitations among Michigan's legal and political elite — an invite to the Soul Food Luncheon thrown every year by U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Damon J. Keith to honor Black History Month.

[Ferndale LGBT community center Affirmations selects new executive director](#)

From MLive, 2/11

FERNDALE – After a months-long search, Affirmations Community Center in Ferndale announced Wednesday their selection for the LGBTQA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people and their allies) organization's next executive director.

[Gay rights group calls for signatures to send court](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/10

WASHINGTON — The nation's largest civil rights group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people is launching a signature drive in support of a legal brief calling on the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn same-sex marriage bans in Michigan and three other states.

[Governor's Summit makes the case for hiring Michigan workers with disabilities](#)

From MLive, 2/9

LANSING – There is an untapped pool of potential and talent in the state's workforce, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley told attendees of the Governor's Business to Business Summit on Disability Employment on Monday.

[UC Berkeley Law professor challenges Economic Club of Grand Rapids to re-examine race](#)

From MLive, 2/9

GRAND RAPIDS – John A. Powell challenged members of the Economic Club of Grand Rapids to re-examine the way they look at racial issues in a luncheon speech on Monday, Feb. 9.

[Muskegon reinstates equal opportunity committee, seeks citizen members to monitor discrimination](#)

From MLive, 2/9

MUSKEGON – The city of Muskegon is resurrecting its equal opportunity committee and is looking for interested residents to serve on it.

Calley, Bernstein Team Up To Promote Hiring People With Disabilities

From MIRS, 2/9

Lt. Gov. Brian CALLEY and Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard BERNSTEIN have teamed up to promote hiring people with disabilities, in an alliance announced today at a conference focused on the issue.

"We are going to tell the story about the successful hirings of qualified workers with disabilities," Calley told the audience of several hundred people from business and other groups.

Calley said he believes there are thousands of workers out there -- many with college degrees -- that have not been tapped for their work skills.

"We don't go after them (and if we do) it will pay huge dividends for the companies," he said.

Bernstein said after his swearing-in ceremony that he hoped to be a role model and that companies would look at his achievements and realize there are others out there that would be the "best employees you could hire."

[Commission approves mediation agreement with former employee](#)

From the Sturgis Journal, 2/9

St. Joseph County's Board of Commissioners last week approved a mediation agreement with a former employee.

[Pasky: Michigan can't condone discrimination](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/9

With a very brief, two paragraph statement last Wednesday, Gov. Rick Snyder displayed the kind of leadership we need in Michigan if we are to continue moving this state forward.

[New campaign at U-M warns students to watch what they say](#)

From Fox 2 Detroit, 2/9

The University of Michigan is debuting the Inclusive Language Campaign with posters alerting students of potentially offensive words.

[Detroit area agencies hone approach to LGBT seniors](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/8

Southfield — Faith Renner loves the advances in gay rights. She just wishes they had come a lot sooner.

[In Michigan State speech, Rep. John Lewis recalls marching and bleeding for equality](#)

From MLive, 2/6

EAST LANSING – It was 1961 and John Lewis, before the people of Georgia's Fifth District elected him to Congress, was eating Chinese food with some friends.

[Former West Bloomfield Twp. employee alleges harassment, intimidation, bullying](#)

From WDIV, 2/6

WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP – A former West Bloomfield Township employee of the Treasurer's Office said photos of monkeys started appearing after she got hired.

[Ypsilanti officials support gay marriage in U.S. Supreme Court case](#)

From MLive, 2/6

Ypsilanti will join an amicus brief in support of two Hazel Park nurses' challenge to Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage that will be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

[Muslim-American leaders meet with Obama at White House](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/5

President Barack Obama met behind closed doors Wednesday at the White House with 14 Muslim Americans, including a leader with a Dearborn-based group, for an hour-long discussion about civil rights, anti-Muslim bias, and extremism.

Capital Notebook: Jones To Introduce African American Commission Bill

From Gongwer, 2/5

Sen. Rick Jones on Thursday issued a memo to members of the Senate, made available to the press, encouraging interested parties to co-sponsor a yet-to-be-numbered bill that would create an African American Commission.

The bill comes on the heels of a visit by Governor Rick Snyder to the Civil Rights Commission where he touted the same idea, which had initially been raised by a commission member. Mr. Jones (R-Grand Ledge) noted that the Department of Civil Rights has an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, Hispanic/Latino Commission, and Council on Arab Chaldean American Affairs (though members of that have yet to be named), but nothing for African Americans.

"The blueback on my desk would task the commission with monitoring, evaluating, investigating, advocating, and initiating programs for the betterment of African Americans in this state, among additional tasks assigned to the commission," the memo read.

The bill will likely be introduced next week.

[State departments prepare to extend benefits to 323 gay couples married in Michigan](#)

From MLive, 2/5

LANSING – State agencies are preparing to extend spousal benefits to the first legally married same-sex couples in Michigan even as the state's reinstated gay marriage ban remains in effect -- and in court.

[Daniel Krichbaum, RIP](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/5

Daniel Krichbaum lived often in a political world, but his ambitions and aspirations were always for the people he served and not himself.

[Rep. Lawrence: Remember Selma, but continue the fight](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/5

This year we remember the importance of the great marches on Selma, Alabama, that took place 50 years ago in 1965. I'm privileged to be part of a delegation of members of Congress who will visit the historic Alabama site next month to commemorate the anniversary of the seminal events.

[Study ranks Michigan near the bottom in controlling bullying in schools](#)

From MLive, 2/4

LANSING – Michigan ranks near the bottom in controlling bullying in its schools among the states analyzed in a new report by WalletHub released on Wednesday.

[Flint man pleads guilty to federal gun charge, claims racial profiling](#)

From MLive, 2/4

FLINT – A Flint man has pleaded guilty to a federal gun charge despite a claim he was the victim of racial profiling by the Michigan State Police.

[Officials in Traverse City OK Indigenous Peoples Day](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/4

Traverse City — Officials in Traverse City have approved marking Indigenous Peoples Day on the same date as the federal Columbus Day holiday.

[Report: Michigan Considered Among Worst States for LGBT Equality](#)

From Public News Service, 2/3

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan is considered to be among the worst states for LGBT equality, according to a report examining the manner in which Michigan laws put LGBT residents in economic harm.

DHS Cleared In Stuffed Ape Case

From MIRS, 2/3

The Department of Human Service (DHS) will not be stuck paying \$21,000 in fines and \$49,800 in attorney fees for allowing a 5-foot stuffed ape to be hung from the cubicle of an African-American employee after the Supreme Court declined to take the case.

Crystal PERRY argued successfully in Ingham County Circuit Court that the toy, which was not removed despite her requests, created a hostile work environment (See "Judge Hangs DHS With \$70K Over Stuffed Ape," 2/27/13).

The Court of Appeals overturned the ruling, saying there was no proof that the placement of the ape was racially motivated or that Perry was the recipient of any racially derogative comments at all. While co-workers laughed at the ape and left written comments on it, there was no evidence that they were racial in nature or directed at Perry, the appellate judges ruled.

"The two gorilla was in (Perry's) workplace for a total of three weeks during the course of (her) employment at DHS -- at the time, a period of over six years," the court wrote. "This does not constitute proof of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment toward plaintiff or African Americans in general."

[Rosa Parks papers give insight into the civil rights icon](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/3

WASHINGTON – The mother of the modern civil rights movement received a Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and was sought out by world leaders, popes and politicians as a symbol of quiet resistance and strength. A statue of her stands in the U.S. Capitol.

[Michigan should recognize March's same-sex marriages](#)

From the Detroit Free Press, 2/3

Michigan could begin to emerge from nearly a year of legal and psychological denial this week if it forgoes a pointless appeal of U.S. District Judge Mark Goldsmith's ruling recognizing the validity of more than 300 same-sex marriages performed last March.

[Appeals panel slashes judgment in anti-gay rant case](#)

From the Detroit News, 2/3

Detroit — A federal appeals panel Monday slashed a \$4.5 million judgment against a former state assistant attorney general fired for waging an anti-gay campaign against a University of Michigan college student, but otherwise rejected the man's appeals.

[Police chief: Ann Arbor police to undergo diversity training in wake of Aura Rosser shooting](#)

From MLive, 2/2

Now that the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office has decided there will be no criminal charges filed in the shooting death of Aura Rosser, Police Chief John Seto says he's able to make some additional comments.

[Asian American civil rights reformer honored](#)

From GVSU Now, 1/30

A Japanese American civil rights icon was posthumously recognized and celebrated by the State of Michigan and Grand Valley at an event January 30.